(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) Standing instructions have been reiterated to the concerned Officers to ensure punctuality, good behaviour, cleanliness and maintenance of the buildings in cooperation with the Central Public Works Department.

News-item "Health Check: CGHS arteries blocked"

15. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Health check: CGHS arteries blocked", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 17th June. 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to improve the quality of service in the CGHS which seems to be on the brink of collapse ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is a constant endeavour of the Government to improve the services in CGHS depending on availability of manpower and resources. The beneficiaries are generally satisfied with the services provided by CGHS. Standing instructions have been reiterated to the concerned Officers to ensure punctuality, good behaviour, cleanliness, and maintenance of the buildings in cooperation with the Central Public Works Department, new comprehensive formulary for MSO/CGHS has been released and the consolidated indent for procurement of drugs/medicines in respect of all the CGHS covered cities has been submitted to ensure regular supply of medicines to the CGHS beneficiaries.

Mentally-challenged persons in the country

16. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have their own mental hospitals;

(b) the total number of mentally-challenged persons in the country, State-wise;

(c) the growth rate of mentally-challenged persons during the last five years; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The States which have their own mental hospitals are: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, NCT of Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) The State-wise data on persons suffering from mental disorders is not available. Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1% to 2% of the population has major mental disorders and 5% and 10% suffer from minor mental disorders.

(c) The number of mentally challenged persons (which includes those suffering from mental illness and those with mental retardation) is increasing due to changes in demographics such as increase in population and over all increase in the rate of depression world-wide.

(d) The Government lias already initiated a pilot programme for providing care for persons with mental disorders in selected districts in the Country. The District Mental Health Programme is currently being implemented in 27 districts covering 22 States and Union Territories. Its aim is to identify persons suffering from various mental disorders and epilepsy and manage them at the primary health care centre and district level, by trained doctors and with the active support of the families and the community in which the patient lives.

Proposal to set up gas-based power plant in AIIMS

17. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND AMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a gas-based power plant in order to maintain constant power supply for AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;